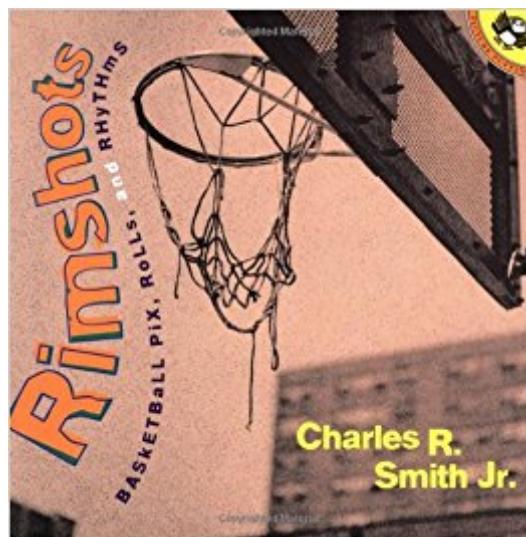


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# Rimshots: Basketball Pix, Rolls, And Rhythms (Picture Puffin Books)



## **Synopsis**

The power, strength, and determination of the game of basketball are captured in striking photographs and sizzling stories, poems, and personal reflections. From frustration to humor, joy, and triumph, this streetwise look at a favorite American pastime conveys all the passion and excitement of the sport.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 690L (What's this?)

Series: Picture Puffin Books

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (April 3, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140566783

ISBN-13: 978-0140566789

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 9 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #450,886 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 in Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Multiculturalism #128 in Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Literary Criticism & Collections #176 in Children's Books > Children's Books > Sports & Outdoors > Basketball

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## **Customer Reviews**

Grade 5 Up?Through unusual fonts and splashes of color, the design of this book mirrors the exuberant nature of this American pastime. Like the game, the poems are quick, energetic, and highly rhythmic, and the prose pieces, personal and passionate. The author/photographer reveals his unabashed love of the game and insight into the personal dynamics of the sport in each double-page spread. The pieces are both varied and accessible. In the humorous narrative "No Sole," different voices lecture a player complaining about how much his new shoes hurt. Each narrator remembers how it was "when I was your age," from no high-tech shoes, to no new shoes, to no shoes at all. In "'Please Put Me In, Coach!'" a boy's pleading voice promises "not to hog," and "I'll listen to you now" if only he can go back in the game. "School's in Session" and "The Sweetest

Roll" are gracefully shaped poems that will inspire students to create their own selections. The concluding piece, "Everything I Need to Know in Life, I Learned from Basketball," will surely find its way onto locker-room and gymnasium walls. All of the superb dual-toned photographs depict young men. Once students and teachers become aware of this title, it will bounce right off the shelves. ?Lee Bock, Glenbrook Elementary School, Pulaski, WI  
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Mixing poetry, memoir, short fiction, and photography, Smith pays a fast-break tribute to the pleasures and pains of b-ball, from being benched ("Please Put Me In, Coach!"); to playing "Hot Like Fire," on the way to scoring 65 points; remembering "the time when my dad could no longer play one on one; or how a new kid, "Meek," proved himself on the court, once he was given a chance. Figures in the photos are blurred, clipped, or shot from behind, giving the illustrations an arty look, and the author is fond to excess of text in multiple colors and typefaces, but for range of experience and immediacy of feeling, this blows past Robert Burleigh's Hoops (1997). Smith closes with another tribute, to the African-American athletes, musicians, and artists who have meant the most to him. (Poetry. 8-11) -- Copyright ©1998, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Nice African American book to discuss with kids of color and beyond.

Rimshots is a great poetry book that my young men are drawn to. They really like the way the artwork correlates with the poem's meaning.

I don't care for the style of poetry.

This book is often rude and self-indulgent. I'd rather my kids not read about humiliating opponents: "Victory for the team and I; humiliation for you." I don't care for the self-congratulatory tone: "I remember challenging the star of the freshman team and beating him in one-on-one." And the list of street court "excuses" seems lazy when half involve something wrong with the player's shoes. My wife hates this book. But my basketball-obsessed 20 month old likes the pictures (and he's too young to pick up on the obnoxiousness). Thankfully, my four year old isn't interested.

Pain, passion, poetry in motion Rimshots has it all. In stories and poems, Smith shows the range of

emotions tied to the hearts of those who love the game of basketball. The in-your-face color typestyles are balanced by the sensitive sepia toned photos of the players. "Don't force anything, let the game come to you". Basketball fans will want this book to come to them. Extraordinary effort for a first time author. Simple and honest.

When I read "Rimshots" I loved the beat of the poems. Being quite involved with basketball (I'm on 3 teams), I thought the book was really cool. I am also an aspiring photographer. So when I read about the author I was amazed that Mr. Smith was able to combine a love for basketball as well as a love for photography. I think he's become my role model now . He's awesome and all of his books are awesome. "Rimshots" Rocks!

I just finished Charles R. Smith Jr.'s book *Rimshots*. It was a great book. It was about the author's life of basketball, and he makes it into poems that deal with different basketball situations. The reason this book was so great is because it was about basketball but in poem form. No other book that I have ever read has used basketball as content for a poem.

*Rimshots* is creative and witty with amazing photos. Any basketball fan will love this book!

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